

May 2, 2021 I Corinthians 14:20-25
Instruction For The Church Tongues vs Prophecy

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Some truths we have learned so far about spiritual gifts.

- *Every Christian has at least one spiritual gift, they are God given, and they are given for the common good. “But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.” (**I Corinthians 12:7**)
- *A careful study of Scripture reveals that there are 21 spiritual gifts listed therein.
- *The most eloquent use of any or all spiritual gifts is nothing without love. (**I Corinthians 13:1-13**)
- *Some of the gifts, prophecy and knowledge, will be done away with when the perfect comes, (eternal state) and the gift of tongues will cease signifying an action upon itself bringing them to an end.
- *Biblical tongues involves a language, not babbling like a barbarian such as the Corinthians were doing. (**I Corinthians 14:1-19**)
- *The gift of tongues was given by God for the benefit of the unbeliever, not the believer. (**I Corinthians 14:22**)
- *The gift of prophesy calls believers, and lost men to account. By this they will fall on their face and worship God.

The church’s most powerful testimony is not ecstasies, but in its clear proclamation of the Word of God. Misuse of tongues drives people away. Prophecy on the other hand edifies believers and evangelizes unbelievers. John MacArthur

Some think that speaking in tongues is a baptism of the Holy Spirit, a “second blessing,” however, Scripture does not support this, **I Corinthians 12:13**, “For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.” Some have built on this lie to make themselves superior over others, but it just is not true. What is worse is the slippery slope that emerges of a works-based salvation. Some think that this work on the believer’s part along with grace make for a person being truly saved, this is not nor ever will be true. One is saved by grace through faith, see **Ephesians 2:8-9**.

When Scripture is preached three things happen

- *men are deeply convicted and judged by what they hear.
- *the fall down and worship God.
- *the word goes out that these people are not crazy, God truly dwells in them. Paige Patterson

Regulations found in **vv 20-25**: **(1)**If there is speaking in a tongue (legitimate), it should be by two or three at the most. **(2)**Do not speak all at one time. **(3)**Let one interpret what has been said. **(4)**If there is no interpreter, let him keep silent. (More to come in remainder of **chapter 14**)

APPLICATION:

Believers, focus on the Word of God, whether at home in your devotion time with your family or personal time in the Bible. When gathered corporately keep the main thing the main thing, the proclamation of the Scriptures, the result is worship of God.

